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THE PLAY MAKER.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY MARK MEREDITH.

We knew him in the good old days
Of Shakespeare's wood notes wild,
And Jonson, at the Triple Tun,
Proud Fancy's wayward child;
And Sheridan, and countless more
Of worthies dead and past,
But unto what complexion here
Have we all come at last?
Where are the fine, grand plays of old?
Upon the shelf they lie;
The dust, perhaps, for ages more,
Will gather inches high.
Behold, the great play maker now,
He needeth not a pen;
For plot he never hesitates
About the why and when.
The classic is not needed now,
And Fancy plays no pranks;
The playwright but desirith
A good, nice pair of tanks;
A buzz saw suiteth well his needs,
A locomotive fast,
A shipwreck on a canvas sea,
A good sheet iron blast.
His study is a joiner's shop,
Or where they make machines,
And there, perplexed, upon his hand
His wondrous brow he leans.
The jacksaw is his fertile pen,
And thus he makes his plays
Oh! shades of Shakespeare once revered!
To please these latter days.
Yet, not his fault, the noble scribe,
The People he must please,
To gather in the wherewithal
With which to live at ease.
He doth but his level best—
Though critics may deride—
And so the drama's future fame
Moves on with rapid stride!

THE BLUE LETTER.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY GEORGE R. SPRAGUE.

"Mr. Kennison," said Findlay, of Findlay, Carberry & Huckins, as he tore the check he had just written from the book, and marked the stub with a cross, "I hope that you will think over what I have said to you. We are not at all satisfied with the way your customers are responding. You must do better this trip, or, I tell you frankly, it will be useless for you to look for a renewal of your contract when it expires two months hence."
"Why, I am sure that my sales will average as high as any man's in the house," Kennison remonstrated.
"They are way below the average," responded Findlay curtly, "but we will not discuss the matter. It is enough that we do not consider that you have given us a full equivalent for the salary we pay you. Furthermore, we do not propose to expend much more money without a satisfactory return."
Kennison was about to reply.
"Not another word, young man," continued Findlay. "I have no time to waste. Have you your samples?"
"All of them but the New Dawsons, sir," replied Kennison; "they were not ready."
"They are ready now," Findlay remarked sourly. "You should be more attentive to your business—more alert. See Peters and get them at once."
"I am afraid that will be impossible," Kennison replied. "Everybody is gone home."
"Eh, what?" Findlay exclaimed, taking out his watch. "It is later than I thought. Do you leave tonight or tomorrow?"
"Tonight on the Fall River boat," replied Kennison. "I am to see several Boston firms tomorrow morning."
"And you haven't the New Dawsons," growled Findlay. "Peters shall answer for this. It doesn't look well for you either, sir. Such carelessness is inexcusable. Why didn't you make it your business to get them from Peters before he went home?"
"I have been in Hartford all day attending to the bluff affair, sir," replied Kennison. "I came here directly from the station."
"Of course," sneered Findlay. "You would be sure to have an excuse. Well, the New Dawsons will have to be forwarded to you."
"I think that I could find them, sir," said Kennison.
"Well, why don't you do it then?" queried Findlay incisively. "Hurry, hurry."
Kennison started for the door.
"Hold on," called Findlay. "When you have found the samples come back here. I want you to take with you to Boston a parcel made up of several packages of pamphlets of my address before the Melchizedek Memorial Church on the duty of Christians to display forbearance in their relations with their fellow men. You will deliver them to certain of my co-workers in the good cause. You will find their address upon the packages, and can attend to it out of business hours—you might devote your evenings to it. That's all. Make haste and get the samples."
Kennison made haste. He had to. He felt that if he remained an instant longer in the presence of his employer something would happen. That something would have involved the patching up of a fine, at least, by an unrepentant commercial traveler, and considerable mental distress and endurance of the ill of poverty by a fond old mother and delicate sister, who depended for support upon the salary for which Findlay claimed Findlay, Carberry & Huckins received no equivalent.
It was but a step into the outer office. A few strides took Kennison across that, for his legs were long.
"Oh," exclaimed a feminine voice, as he threw open the door leading into the salesroom.
"Ah," said Kennison coming to an abrupt stop, just in time to escape colliding with a dream of

beautiful womanhood who hesitated upon the threshold. "Beg pardon," he stammered, as he swayed to and fro, in his attempts to retain his equilibrium.
"Is Mr. Findlay in?" the lady asked.
"Yes, ma'am," he replied, "this way, please."
He retraced his steps to the private office, the door of which he had closed when he fled in the interests of peace and the samples of New Dawsons. Looking over his shoulder to satisfy himself that the lady had understood him, he knocked upon the polished panels behind which the example of commercial Christianity and his address before the Melchizedek Memorial Church were awaiting his return with the samples of the New Dawsons.
"Come in," exclaimed Findlay, in the same ur-

gent tone which had marked his extremely pleasant interview with his employer.
Kennison opened the door and stepped into the private office. "There is —," said Kennison.
"Where are the packages?" exclaimed Findlay, who was trying up the packages of addresses in one large bundle. "Let me see whether you have selected New Dawsons or a line of Claret Splashes."
"Mr. Findlay," said Kennison, in a tone that indicated ill-restrained impatience, "there is a lady in the outer office who wants to see you."
Findlay's face flushed slightly, and it seemed to Kennison that he muttered something under his breath that sounded remarkably like an oath.
"Ah, yes," he said immediately. "It is doubtless one of the ladies from the Nyanza Mission. They call frequently. Show her in. Then get those samples, and don't forget to come back for these pamphlets."
Kennison stepped into the outer office.
"You will find Mr. Findlay in here," he remarked, drawing to one side of the door to let her pass. As she did so she stole a furtive, but comprehensive glance at her, for she wasn't at all like the missionary ladies he had encountered hitherto.
The curiosity, however, was all on his side, for she saluted him without bestowing as much as an instant's glance upon him.
Had she done so she would have noticed that his expression changed from one of inquiry to half incredulous recognition, that he gazed after her with a look of bewildered astonishment, and then, thrusting his hands into his pockets, walked meditatively into the salesroom and disappeared up the stairs to the floor above.

her young life. Such heroic self abnegation, such angelic —
At this juncture the sound of violent coughing, proceeding from the private office, caused the admirer of the "earnest worker" to pause in his flight of eloquence. Before he had a chance to lapse again into oratory, the now thoroughly exasperated Kennison snatched the letters from his hand, jammed them into his pocket, clutched his sample case with one hand and the package of addresses before the Melchizedek Memorial Church with the other, and, murmuring a husky goodby, fled into the salesroom and thence into the street.
Nor did he pause until he reached the post office station, where he purchased two stamps and put them on the letters. Before dropping them in the mail box he examined the envelopes. The paper was light in texture, a deep blue in tint, and in the left upper corner of each one was the letter M in fanciful design. One was addressed to a noted breeder of horses and professional turfman, who was as famous for his festive proclivities as his good fortune upon the race track. There was no mistaking his identity, for the letter was directed to his stock farm in Kentucky. The destination of the other was the country residence of a wealthy financier and club man, whose weakness for pretty, and not over particular, women was as well known as his astuteness upon "Change."
Kennison was no moralist, but the savage disgust which possessed him as he scanned the delicate chirography of the "earnest worker," made his fingers tingle to tear the two missives into ribbons,

and his feet ached to kick the package of addresses into the street.
Although he controlled his feelings it took several strong cigars and a protracted promenade upon the breezy deck of the Sound steamer to restore his equanimity.
He forgot all about it the next day in the bustle and turmoil of business. When night came, though, and he set about sorting the packages of addresses, preparatory to delivering them as Findlay had ordered, the feeling of repulsion returned with redoubled violence. Mastering his disinclination to continue with his task, he worked on faithfully until only a small heap of Findlay's brochures remained. Picking up two of them at once he discovered an

As he finished speaking the men with the stretcher passed in close proximity on their way to the baggage room.
"Doc Gifford's waitin' fur you," said the baggage master to the nearest of the four stretcher bearers. "Be he done fur?"
Without waiting for a reply he flashed his lantern into the face of the injured man, who, disturbed by the glare, opened his pain dimmed eyes and gazed at the inquisitive disturber of his misery.
"Budlong," exclaimed Kennison, in a shocked tone.
"Kennison," feebly murmured the injured man, trying to move, but failing with a groan of agony.
When the Eastern Express drew out of the station Kennison was not on it. Instead, he was one of a small group who stood outside of the baggage room waiting to learn the result of the doctor's examination.

Presently that worthy appeared.
"Is Mr. Kennison here?" he asked.
"Yes," said Kennison, stepping up to him.
The doctor drew him aside.
"Your friend is fatally injured," he said in a low tone. "He wants to see you before he dies."
"Take me to him," was Kennison's answer.
Opening the door of the baggage room, the doctor ushered him into the presence of the dying man.
While power of recollection remains with him Kennison will remember that scene. The dimly lit cheerless place, faintly lit by the lanterns of the railroad men, the piles of trunks and boxes looming up in ghostly irregularity in the corners and along the walls of the room, the grim shadow of the scales and, in the midst of it all, the gaunt and spectral outline of the stretcher with its moaning burden of dying humanity.
He hastened to the side of the injured man.
"Frank, old fellow," he said in a voice tremulous with emotion, "words won't tell how sorry I feel."
"I know," interrupted the broken and battered creature, between his gasps and groans. "You were always my friend. I want to speak to you alone."
"All right, partner," said the baggage master, who was standing at the head of the stretcher. "Come on, boys. He wants to talk private to his friend."
He went out on the platform. The others followed him.
"If you want me," said the doctor, "call. I'll be just outside."
Then he withdrew.

"Two years ago," began the dying man, as though he feared he would not live long enough to finish what he had to say. "I went to Central America to superintend the establishment of a branch for the firm for whom I worked in this country. Fearing that my wife and boy could not stand the climate, I left them at her home in Oliver's Falls, a town about twenty miles off this railroad. The nearest station is the next one to the west. Six months ago she ceased writing to me. After waiting some time I wrote to the postmaster. He replied that she had left town and that nobody knew where she had gone. She had taken my boy with her. I hurried home and found that the intelligence was true. She had even robbed me. Before leaving for Central America I had placed all my property in her name. She had sold it and had taken the proceeds with her. I could discover no trace of her, but I found my son.
"She had deserted him, and he had been cared for by a charitable institution. He is now with my parents in Waltham, not far from Boston. I raised some money, and was about to start in pursuit of her, to demand restitution of what she had robbed me of—ten thousand dollars in all—and get a divorce, when I was stricken down by a fever while at Oliver's Falls. Yesterday I felt strong enough to resume my search. Today I drove to the station to catch the night train for Boston. I missed it. The next one passed that place, but stopped here. I attempted to walk to this place along the track. When near here I fainted and fell upon the rails—you know the rest. My boy is penniless—help —
The dying man's voice, which had been scarcely audible during the latter part of his story, failed him utterly. He tried to speak, but could not do so.
Kennison bent over him.
"I will help him," he said. "His future shall be cared for by me."
His promise was heard.

The face already gray with the shadow of death relaxed into a smile, the glazing eyes gleamed gladly for an instant and the almost nerveless hand tried to clasp his.
"Doctor, doctor," cried Kennison.
The physician responded instantly, but when he reached the stretcher it needed but a single glance, to tell him that he was gazing on a dead man.
When Kennison resumed his journey, twenty-four hours later, after seeing Budlong's body shipped to his parents in Waltham, he had accomplished two things. He had carefully read and re-read the letter, which he found among Findlay's addresses before the Melchizedek Memorial Church, and had definitely decided what steps to take to enable him to keep his promise to the dead man.

He was due in Portland, Maine, at an early date, and the making up of lost time taxed him pretty severely, but he reached there according to his schedule.
He found the city crowded with strangers. There was a big church convention in session, which had attracted delegates from all parts of the Union. A large number of his customers happened to be members of the convening denomination. Consequently, he found business to be at almost a standstill, and likely to remain so until the adjournment of the assembly. He determined to take advantage of this unexpected hiatus, and enjoy a much needed rest. Securing his mail at the hotel office, he sought his room. After reading the batch of letters which composed it, he undressed and went to bed, although it was early in the afternoon. He fell asleep at once. It was nearly evening when he was awakened by a loud rapping upon his door. Springing from his bed, he went to ascertain who his unexpected visitor was.
It was Findlay.
"I want to see you," said that worthy.
"I'll be dressed in a few moments," said Kennison.
"Oh, I cannot wait," exclaimed Findlay.
"Come in, then," said Kennison, admitting his



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World Players

Notes from the Mabel Paige Co. Mabel Paige will commence her fourth starring tour, under the management of M. A. Mosley, at Roanoke, Va., Aug. 12. The company will be the largest and best ever carried by Mosley, and will include the following people: Mabel Paige, Dora Paige, Bessie Warren, Jessie Emlen, Grace Belknap, Rena Trumbull, H. G. Woodward, Edward Chase, Geo. Gale, Frank Morehouse, James Thatcher, Charles Eberhardt, W. W. Newcomer, musical director; J. W. Gildou, agent, and M. A. Mosley, manager. Our repertoire will consist of "A Spanish Romance," "The Other Girl," "La Cigale," "Queed Mab," "The Runaway Girl," "The Little Devil," "The Egyptian," "The Belle Marguerite" and "The Little Hussar." The season is booked solid to April 20, 1906.

Geo. B. Miller, who has appeared with much success as Col. Moberly in "Alabama," is now resting at his home, Buffalo, N. Y. Speaking of the tour of the company he says: "Since we left Minneapolis, Minn., early in April, we have covered a great amount of territory, from Winnipeg, Man., down to Fargo, N. D., through Montana and Washington, up to British Columbia, back into Oregon, and down to 'Frisco, and then to all the principal cities in California, Utah and Colorado. The company came directly from Kansas City, Mo., from Colorado Springs, Colo., and disbanded after a successful journey."

Manager John M. Ward, of "Delmonico's at Six," was a CLIPPER caller July 17. He has engaged Ollie Evans to assume the principal role, and will change the action of the play to make it a farce comedy. The supporting company will be headed by Nellie Dunbar, and will include Bella Vivian, Madge and Lillie Hart, Chas. J. Stine, F. M. Ward, Geo. T. Williams and E. J. Jones. J. B. Cass has signed as musical director, and the tour will open at Newark, N. J., Aug. 22.

Managers Gallagher, West and Watson have signed the following people for "The Idol of the Masquerade": Frank H. Ramsey, Dan Lacy, Al. Tanager, Sam Robinson, Joseph Zieff, Phil. English, Fred Rounds, Ida Russell, Jeannette Dupree, Abbie Lamoureux, Mable Rennie, Maggie Clark and Mollie Emerich.

Hattie Foley has begun an engagement with the stock company in Los Angeles, Cal. She opened as the Countess in "The Clemenceau Case."

Clint G. Ford, manager of Ford's Theatrical Attractions, has engaged Frank J. Proctor as his new manager for his Western "An American Hero" company. He has also engaged Homer E. Davis, formerly manager of "St. Perkins," to manage his Northern Ford's Dramatic Company.

W. C. Justice goes to Los Angeles, Cal., to manage the new production, "The Defiant."

Fred Savona, who was last season connected with the management of Robert G. Ingersoll's lecture tour, has been engaged by Davis & Keogh as manager of transportation for one of their attractions.

Chas. L. Walters was a CLIPPER caller July 17. He will next season go in advance of A. Y. Pearson's "Land of the Midnight Sun."

Rehearsals have begun of "On the Suwanee River," the elaborate and beautiful play, which E. J. Nugent is soon to produce. William McClain, Mine, Cordelia and others who figured prominently in "Black America" are in the cast.

Steve Brodie will begin his second tour in "On the Bowery" in August. He will start as far West as San Francisco, Cal., the coming season. Overtures have been made to Managers Davis & Keogh toward presenting "On the Bowery" in London.

Netter and Williams were CLIPPER callers July 17. They have been engaged for a new comedy, "Two Game Boys," which will be put out next season by Geo. Ledger.

The Sherman and Echols Co. closed a Summer season of fifteen weeks July 13. Wm. Echols joined Sharpley's Lyceum Theatre, New York.

Lola Morrissey, last season with "The Galley Slave," is spending the Summer with friends at Keuka Lake, N. Y. She has been engaged to go next season with "The Land of the Living."

W. N. Grant and wife, Billy Barbour, Walter Fane and W. G. Gilbert and wife have been engaged for Frank E. Long's repertory company.

Manager Chas. Stephenson has engaged for next season's tour of Stephenson's Lyceum Theatre, Fred C. Thomas and wife, Claude La Motte and wife, R. A. Robinson, Blanche Seymour, Mabel Russell and H. A. La Ross. T. C. Stephens will do the advance.

F. A. Murphy and Carrie Low have signed with Chas. W. Warren for next season.

"Little Christopher," under the direction of A. M. Palmer, will open its season Sept. 2, at the Columbia Theatre, Brooklyn, N. Y. The company will include William Collier, Alexander Clark, Harry Macdonough, Geraldine McCann, John W. Wilson, Bertha Waring, Louise Allen, Harry Leoni and Pauline Traut. Kilmay's Living Pictures will be exhibited, and Herman Perlet will be the master of ceremonies.

John Kirt and Fred Backus will be members of Edward Harrigan's company next season.

Helen Bertram will sing with the Bostonians next season.

Charles H. Hoy has finished his play, "A Silent Woman," in which his wife (Caroline Miskel) will star next season.

Manager J. M. Hill has engaged Ernest Hastings to play a part in "Margaret Doane," Augustus Thomas' play, which will be produced in Buffalo, N. Y., Sept. 1.

Forbes Robertson has engaged Charles Coghlan to play the role of Mercutio in "Romeo and Juliet," with which Mr. Robertson intends to open his season at the Lyceum Theatre, London, Eng., in the Fall.

Lillian Walrath, who is to tour next season under the management of Bailey Avery, will begin with a triple bill, but later will be featured in a three act comedy entitled "The Day After," which A. E. Lancaster is writing for her. Frederick de Belleville has been engaged as her leading man.

It is announced that Julia Neilson and her husband, Frederick Terry, who are coming over to support John Hart in "The Notorious Mr. Elphinstone," propose to start on their own account in this country the following season.

"Alton, the Vagabond," is the title of the new romantic play which Otis Skinner intends to produce next season.

"A Stag Party" will be the title of the comedy now being written by Paul M. Potter and Bill Nye.

Gladys Wallis, under the management of John W. Dunne, will open her season Aug. 26, at McVicker's Theatre, Chicago, Ill., in "The Girl in the Red Velvet Shoes," a new comedy by John W. Dunne.

Robert B. Mantell is negotiating with Katharine Lucille Foote, an English actress who recently arrived here, to take the place of Charlotte Behrens as his leading lady next season. Miss Behrens has retired temporarily from the stage on account of ill health, and is going to take a trip South. Mr. Mantell will open his season in Lowell, Mass., on Sept. 2, under the management of E. A. Bonta.

Manager Walter A. Livermore, of the Gas Belt circuit, informs us that his theatre at Lima, O., has been entirely remodelled. New seats, carpets, draperies and electric lights have been added, and the stage has been much enlarged and improved. The season will open with Billy Van's Minstrels, Aug. 10. Manager Livermore has also leased McChugh's Park, Lima, and is now building a Summer theatre.

A. K. Glover, of Natchitoches, La., is erecting a new opera house in that town, and expects to have it completed in time to open this Fall.

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Notes from the Redmond Dramatic Co. We are in our fifty-second week, and business continues good, all things considered. We will not close this Summer, but will add a third and fourth season in the Fall, playing all the larger towns through Nebraska and Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. N. T. Nelson and Frank Dudley joined us July 2, at Tecumseh, Neb., for the remainder of Summer, and also for the Winter season. Roster, Ed. Redmond, proprietor and manager; N. T. Nelson, Frank Pond, Rod. C. Smith, Frank Dudley, Prof. J. M. Sandusky, Estelle Redmond, Marguerite Calman, Dot Ray and Master Clem. Redmond. We will add several new plays to our repertory this Fall.

Louie Baer has been engaged as leader of orchestra for the Columbia Theatre, Boston, Mass.

Manager James F. Wood is spending his vacation in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Ida Mille and Inez Mewbauer have both been engaged by Jefferson, Klaw & Erlanger for Palmer Cox's "Brownies."

Katrina H. Perlet was granted a divorce July 19, in this city, from Herman Perlet, musical director.

Denman Thompson and George W. Ryer have written a drama entitled "Our New Minister."

Orrin Johnson has been engaged by Managers Palmer & Knowles for an important role in "The Great Dictatorship."

Frederic and Minnie Seward closed their season July 6, and are spending their Summer vacation in the Adirondack Mountains.

Mrs. Harriet Holman and her son Alfred intend starting a new Opera Company, and are intending to take "The Bohemian Girl," "The Grand Duchess," "The Daughter of the Regiment," "Cinderella," "Fra Diavolo" and several other operas, cut them down so as to play about one hour each, and play them in popular La Crosse houses.

Manager Pole, of New Haven, Ct., intends to build a new theatre in Church Street, that city, opposite his present playhouse.

Messrs. Abbey, Schoeffel & Grau have announced that they will bring no more French players to this country, as their ventures in this line have not proved profitable.

It is announced that Beerholm Tree is to do Paul M. Potter's play of "The Idol of the Masquerade." Mr. Potter has been asked by Mr. Tree to supervise the rehearsals in London. Mr. Tree expects to produce the work the first week in September.

C. B. Jefferson, Klaw & Erlanger have already booked twenty-seven attractions for their Southern theatres for the season next.

Frank W. Lodge will direct the tour of Ada Gray and Charles F. Tingay, next season, commencing in September. Mr. Tingay has sold the English rights of his play, "The Bohemian Girl," to Mr. Reynolds, of the Theatre Royal, Leeds, Eng.

Roster of Julie Walters' "A Money Order" Co.: Jules Walters, Geo. R. Boales, Rod. B. Galliard, Frank Elmore, Chas. G. Osborne, Will A. Baron, Robert Irving, Michael Connor, Y. H. Bon, Louise Llewellyn, Ella Miller, Ada Walters, Elmer J. Walters, general agent; Will F. Gardner, lithographer. We open our season Aug. 17, at Pullman, Ill.

Minnie Palmer has called the Taylor Managers' Exchange to her aid, and has placed a good many, and will arrive in the United States with her company the same month, in ample time for transit to San Francisco, Cal., where she will probably open in her new play, "The Idol of the Masquerade."

Burt Harvey is summing at Bath Beach, L. I. Laura Bigger is in San Francisco, Cal., with Hoyt's "A Black Sheep" Co.

Notes from Marie Wellesley's Players: We have played five weeks in the West, in crowded houses, and have turned people away several times. We are now playing Eau Claire to big houses, and have displayed the "S. R. O." sign for an entire week. We remain here three weeks, and then play Winnipeg and return to the States.

Harry Rossett has been engaged by the H. S. Taylor Managers' Exchange for the tenor role of Norman Blood, in Hoyt's "A Trip to Chinatown." The company will be headed by Laura Bigger and Burt Harvey.

E. K. Franklin, who has been in the employ of Manager M. S. Robinson, of Buffalo, N. Y., for three years, will this week close with Mr. Robinson and join the forces of Davis & Keogh. He will go in advance of "On the Bowery."

Mrs. H. E. Newell (Minerva Niblo) presented her husband with a baby boy on July 17.

Jacques Martin has been re-engaged by Charles Frohman for the "Charley Aunt" Co.

Richard Barlow, of the "Lily" Co., is in Paris, Fr., where he will secure new gowns for the role of Isabella, the Daisy Queen of Spain.

Edwin Wayne has been engaged by E. J. Nugent to play a prominent part in "The Stowaway," the coming season.

Notes from Scott Raymond's Comedians: We will close a successful Summer tour July 27. The entire company has signed for next Summer, opening June 24, 1906. We will be booked solid in the State of Illinois, and in the West, where we will return dates. Most every one has secured a good engagement through the "Old Reliable." Mr. Raymond does not do advance work until next June.

Jno. A. Hummelin writes that he will have the sole management of the "Lily" Co., in the coming season. Howard Hall and Beatrice Eide will be featured. The company will be augmented by the addition of a band and orchestra. The season opens at Mansfield, O., Aug. 26.

Meat Gilbert, who has been with her husband, is camping on Marion Island, Mich., for the Summer.

John T. Hanson and Willard and Hall have signed to play prominent parts with Manager Burdick's "Globe's Troubles" Co. They open on Dickson & Talbot's circuit, in Indianapolis, Ind., Aug. 12.

The Carle Louis Co., under the management of Jno. A. Hummelin, opens the season at Gallon, O., Sept. 2. Among the people already engaged are Harry Eiding, Frankie Ritchie, John M. Dwyer, Verne Armstrong, Jas. F. Keely, Geo. A. Ott, the one man orchestra, and Baby Maude Winthrop. Rehearsals will be conducted at Kelley's Island, Lake Erie. The company will present an entire new repertory.

Con T. Murphy, author of "Ivy Leaf," "Fairies' Well" and other plays, has written a novel, "The Miller of Glendon," an Irish story, which Mr. Dwyer has published by G. W. Barker, 121 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill. It makes a volume of over two hundred pages, clearly printed and illustrated. It is issued both in cloth and in paper.

Philip Phillips, advance agent of Walker Whiteside, who has been ill at his home for several weeks, informs us that he is well on his way to recover his health, and will be ready for business at the opening of the season.

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Jas. B. Mackie opens his season Aug. 12 at Bath, Me., as usual, making the third year at that town. He writes that he will carry the "Grimes' Cellar Door," which he has carried the strongest and best company he ever had in the past, including Louise Sanford, Trixy Hamilton, Laura Thorne, Delmore and Pasqueena, Mari Allen, Mamie Hargreaves, the Gotham Quartet, Fred Darc, John P. McDonough, H. H. Mosier, Harvey W. Thompson and Jas. B. Mackie. The scenery is all new and entirely new paper. The route is all booked for this, the sixth year. Mr. Mackie begins rehearsing at Tony Pastor's theatre, this city, July 25.

Hoyt's Comedy Company will open the new Opera House at La Harpe, Ill., Aug. 5.

The De Vere Comedy Co., Elsie De Vere leading, will produce the following repertory: "The Uncle Rags," "Noble Outcast" and "Capt. Kate," the coming season. The company will open at Hastings, Minn., and play the cities along the river, traveling in their own boat.

The Rinehart Comedy Co. closed its Summer season at Atchison, Kas., July 13. Munc. Rinehart and daughters are resting at St. Joseph, Mo., and J. C. Murphy is at Kansas City.

Chas. H. Greene has signed with "A Fatted Calf" Co.

Bro. Brown, whistler, has been engaged to play Joshua Paquette, the artist, in "A Fatted Calf," for the coming season. Edith Hoyt has been engaged for the same company, to play Dollie Franklin, a type writer.

Henry of Allen & Hill's Company, inform us that the company will begin an engagement at Watertown, N. Y., at Glen Park, a resort near that town, to give its first dramatic performance. Minnie Seward has been engaged to strengthen the company.

Charles F. Jerome and Clara Bell are the latest engagements for "Delmonico's at Six."

Managers Ellis & Beamon, of "On the Potomac," are negotiating for a tent in which to play, and have secured the services of London swells.

Manager Joe De Layne, of the Ideal Comedy Co., informs us that they are touring Indiana with some success. The company includes, among others, W. G. Wright and wife, Lillian Jackley and Zola Ziegler.

Richard Hume was tendered a benefit at Mt. Clemens, Mich., July 22.

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Variety and Minsrely

JOHN D. HOPKINS has for many years been widely known as one of the most enterprising and successful managers, mainly of road companies, but, nevertheless, within a short period he has blossomed out as a most enterprising boomer of popular price amusements in the bustling West. When he opened the old Pope's Theatre in St. Louis with a continuous performance of the "Pope's Theatre," he was the first to prove the prophets were entirely at sea, for in a few weeks the first of the Hopkins continuous houses became a most profitable theatre. Then came the People's, in Chicago, Ill., a veritable theatrical morgue, where for years disaster had been king, with disadvantages of locality, and at such a house a success was achieved within a single week, and one that has been growing ever since, quite recently he has come into possession of another Chicago theatre, the Standard, on the West Side, also at the lowest ebb, which will be opened within the next few weeks. In St. Louis, Mr. Hopkins will, by October, be the owner of an entirely new theatre and roof garden, which is being built on the site of the former Pope's Theatre, in the magnificent Century Building now in course of erection on the site of the former Pope's Theatre, Olive, Ninth and Locust Streets.

MANAGER TONY PASTOR returned from Europe, July 13, and has many important contracts in his possession, all in keeping with the spirit of progression he has continually manifested. The coming season at his theatre, in this city, will be made important by the appearance there of a number of performers well known to London and the Continent, augmented by a strong list of past favorites, both of foreign and local note. Bessie Bellwood will fill a six weeks' engagement with Manager Pastor, and he has also secured, for her third tour, Vesta Tilley, the accomplished impersonator of London swells.

Among the other important foreign contracts he has made are those calling for the appearance here of the original Paquerette, Vesta Victoria, Marie Kendall, Colleen Conway, Major Newell and the Osmond Sisters. Pastor's road company will begin a season of eleven weeks at Elizabeth, N. J., Aug. 5. His theatre in this city will open Aug. 19.

BILLY YOUNG has signed with Mahara's Minstrels for next season.

LOTTA HOLLYWOOD writes the CLIPPER of her success at Kiel, Ger., where she is performing a new ladder act.

Mrs. FRANK J. CUMMINGS and her son are visiting Mr. and Mrs. John Moran at their home, in Chicago, Ill. Mr. Cummings is managing the Holles Opera House, Madison, Ind., for the Summer season.

ADDIE MOORE is spending the Summer at Roseville, N. J., with her mother.

James H. Morris has signed for next season with the "Senator O'Grady" Company.

LOTTA HOLLYWOOD is spending the Summer at Pawtucket, R. I.

GANELLAT has finished his engagement with the "Clippers" at the River Side Mineral Springs, Del., and is now at the River Side Mineral Springs, Del.

FRANCIS HERRERT, now with Luciers' Minstrels, was recently presented with a handsome gold watch and chain.

JOHN D. HOPKINS will next season produce a new dramatic specialty entitled "Our Duty." He will be assisted by Kittle Emmett.

JOHN and LIZZIE McDOWELL played the week of July 1 at the Park Pavilion Theatre, Cleveland, O., and are now at the River Side Mineral Springs, Del.

HAL BLAIR and WALTER MAKIN have finished their tour with Hall's Trained Animal Show, and are summering at Canton, Mo.

Notes from BILLY VAN'S BIG MINSTRELS.—We open our season Aug. 14, at the Grand Opera House, Dayton, O. Our roster will include: Tom Lewis, Sam and Chas. Rowe and Benj. Stewart, the Fashion Four and Edward Moran. A feature of the parade will be the distinct costumes of the different sections, of which there are four. Wm. B. Curtis is general manager, John V. Young, advance representative; Dan Quisenberry, interactor and stage manager, and Robert Carmichael, musical director.

WELCH and WELCH appeared week ending July 13 at the Court Street Theatre, Buffalo, N. Y.

Notes from BILLY CASAS' MINSTRELS.—We commence rehearsal Aug. 10, and open our season at the Centennial Opera House, Plymouth, Ind., Aug. 17. The company will travel in their own car, which is now being painted inside and out. It is arranged to have a better class of attractions here, and two state rooms. The company will be composed as follows: Billy Casad, Charles W. Langstaff, Charles Casad, Frank Casad, Clarence Casad, James Casad, White and La Motte, John Phillips, Chas.

THEODORE ACKERLEY, of Perth Amboy, was the winner of the twenty five mile handicap road race for the championship of Middlesex County, which took place on July 29, between Metuchen and New Brunswick, N. J. The time was 1:10:30, which makes a record for that course. William Ackersley is second, and Hans Hanson, also of Perth Amboy, 3rd.

THE WET END. HOMING CLERK, of Lawrence, Mass., and a flock of seven birds to M. Thomas, Ont., were released at 5 A. M. July 13. The first bird home was 4:10 min. the property of William Slater, which was found at 12:10, at 17 Hancock street, Boston, 14, the time arrival not being known. This is the first cross recorded in Lawrence that ever covered 525 miles.

H. HONAY and **S. C. MILLET** won the doubles in the



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Two little schoolmates, a lad and a lass,
In the same schoolroom and in the same class,
To love each other were learning each day,
Always together, in study or play.

All was then sunshine, and no clouds to mar
Their childish pleasures, for each was a star
In the eyes of the other, for love was in vain;
They parted in anger, this sweetheart and swain.

CHORUS:
Very angry words were spoken,
Schoolmates now no more.
The lover played the truant,
But never before
Had he been absent
Till their quarrel came.
Two young hearts are broken,
Sweetheart and swain.

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WARNING.

TO J. J. OWENS, Manager of the Tomlinson Comedy Co., and any one else who may, contemptuously using the name RUBB, in connection with any attraction or co. It has come to my notice that one J. J. Owens, of the Tomlinson Co., has used my name in booking time in the New England, as well as to engage people. In the last issue of the CLIPPER he, OWENS, denies having done this. Here is an extract from letters sent to managers:

MANAGER DRESSER, at Southbridge, Me. June 3.—The company is about the same as the RUBB COMEDY CO. of last season. Most of the band and acting people were with the RUBB CO., and we have strengthened the show considerably.

MANAGER HARRIS, of Lewiston, Me. ANDREWS, MOULTON and JOHNSON, of Salem, Mass., have all received about the same, and yet this man has the gall to have put in type he did not send out above letters. He also stated in a letter to MRS. MARION LEWIS, who had been with me for two seasons, that a friend of his had bought out the co. from me, and he was about to drift out as a manager, all done to deceive. The Rubb Comedy Co. Challenge Band and Orchestra is a copy of NONE but a pattern for all musicmen managers who have sprung up to deceive. W. A. Feist, printer, of White Haven, Pa., informs me that parties have even gone so far as to want the use of my printing. There is but one Rubb Comedy Co., and that is managed by me personally. My company for the coming season will far surpass any previous efforts. Managers and the profession, do not be deceived by these people. There is an end to most things, but none to people who are bound to deceive. J. J. Owens's falsehoods have been nailed solid. You are now aware of him for one. I have no further time to waste on these people. Enough said. GEORGE H. RUBB.

P. S.—Season opens Aug. 19. All acting Co. must report for rehearsal at Schiller House, Lancaster, Pa., Aug. 5, at 10 A. M.

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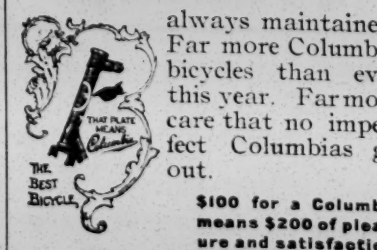


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